(b) and (c) There is a SGC office in Rajasthan located at Jaipur. However, on the recommendations of Expenditure Reform Commission (ERC), all the Save Grain Campaign offices including Jaipur are being closed.

(d) The number of farmers trained under the SGC in Rajasthan during the last three years, year-wise, are as under:—

Sl. No.	Item of Work	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08 (upto December, 2007)
1.	Number of farmers trained in Stipendiary Training Courses	1850	1400	1050
2.	Number of farmers trained in non-Stipendiary Training Courses	2031	1526	1300
	TOTAL	3881	2926	2350

Delayed production of sugar

†1591. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production of sugar in several States has been delayed by sugar mills despite the commencement of crushing season in the country;

(b) if so, the names of these States and whether this is also a reason for decrease in sugar production in the country during sugar crushing year 2007-08;

(c) if not, the reaction of Government therefor and whether sugarcane growers have also suffered loss due to delay in starting crushing of sugarcane; and

(d) if so, the estimate of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (d) The late crushing of sugarcane by sugar factories is reported to have taken place in the States of Bihar, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand during the current sugar season 2007-08. The sugar production in the country during the current sugar season may decline by about 15 lac tonnes over the last sugar season. One of the factors for decline in sugar production can be late starting of crushing operations by sugar factories.

Foodgrains stock for PDS

1592. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVEE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether country would experience a tight position in foodgrains stock in the Central Pool for the public distribution system by April, 2009; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

† *Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.*